(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Government have come across reports of the sale of arms by China to Myanmar. Government are also aware of the extensive defence cooperation between China and Pakistan including supply of Chinese aircrafts, missiles and other weapons and transfer of sophisticated arms technology.

(c) The Chinese Government has been made aware of our concern in this regard.

Government have and will continue to monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take adequate measures to safeguard it.

Indo-U.S. Relations

271. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are two major irritants in Indo-U.S. relations at present, namely, the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and the missile technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Our relations with the US are multi-faceted and wide-ranging. While there are shared perspectives on many issues, differences exist on the NPT and issues relating to missile technology proliferation. India's position on the NPT is well-known. On the issue of missile technology, Government are committed to a policy of self-reliance.

(c) Government are discussing issues relating to disarmament, non-proliferation and regional security on a bilateral basis with the US Administration. This dialogue is intended to facilitate a better understanding of each other's positions.

Taking over of ICWA

272. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representations for taking over of the management of ICWA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the deterioration in the working condition and salary of staff in the council and if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether Government are considering various measures including possibility of introducing a Bill in Parliament for the takeover of the Council's management to improve the ICWA and restore its original standards; and

(e) if so, by when the working of ICWA is expected to be improved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) Numerous representations have been received by Government from individuals, staff association and other bodies asking Government to take over the management of the ICWA.

(c) to (e) Government are aware of complaints of deteriorating working conditions in the ICWA including staff grievances. Various measures for revitalising the functioning of the ICWA at an early date are under consideration.

Problems faced by ICWA staff

273. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to sanction grant to ICWA's present management without solving the problems of its staff;

(b) whether the employees of ICWA are covered under Minimum Wages Act;

(c) whether Government are aware of suspension and dismissals of the employees without any concrete reasons and without any legal procedure; and

(d) whether Government have recently received the representation of the lady staff at the ICWA Library regarding misbehaviour and haraassment by the Officers of the Council, if so, what action Government have taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) The question of a grant is to be considered in the context of various measures presently under Government's consideration for revitalising functioning of the ICWA.

(b) to (d) Matters relating to the welfare and status of employees are to be handled by the management of the ICWA, which is an autonomous body. Complaints about conditions of service and behaviour towards employees have been received. Government hopes that the present management of the Council will take appropriate steps in this matter.

Deportation of Memon Brothers to India

274. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI :

SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have demanded repatriation of Memon brothers from Pakistan through diplomatic channels;

(b) if so, what has been the response of that Government; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some other culprits involved in the Bombay blasts have fled to Gulf countries and if so, the details of the steps taken for their repatriation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) The Government have informed Pakistan of the Memon family's involvement in the bom blasts in Bombay as well as about th details of their travels between India an Pakistan through Dubai. We hav sought the cooperation of the Pakista Government in locating these persons an sending them back to India for questio ing.

(b) The reaction of the Pakistani auth ities to the information given to them far indicates that Pakistan will take possible measures to ensure against exp ure of their involvement in the expl *sions which were organised in Bombay.*

(c) The Government had informed t Governments of UAE and Saudi Arab about the likely presence of some of t members of the Memon family and h requested for assistance in apprehend and deporting them to India. The Go ernment of UAE had also been reques o apprehend and deport Dawood Ibrah a well known criminal who was suspec o be in Dubai.

Loan from World Bank to revive deep fishing industry

275. SHRI MENTAY PADAMN BHAM : Will the Minister of FO PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be plea to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Governn sought a loan from the World Bank to vive the deep-sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, what are the details;

(c) whether Government propose offer a new package to rehabilitate the ready sick deep-sea fishing industry;

(d) if so, the details therof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESS INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGO (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. World Bank requested to fund the Demonstration C mercial Fishing for diversification of